

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: Chair Jennifer Fielder, on January 26, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jennifer Fielder, Chair (R)
Sen. Jedediah Hinkle, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. David Howard (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Pat Christian, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 98, 1/23/2017; HB 150, 1/23/2017; SB 119, 1/23/2017

Executive Action: Voted that legislative staff draft a bill to allow blaze pink to be an option for hunter safety.

HEARING ON HB 150

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:13 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 150, Clarify FWP residency requirement for armed forces member, spouse & dependent.

[EXHIBIT\(fis19a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fis19a02\)](#)

00:03:06 Sen. Vincent entered the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:40 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

00:05:21 Hank Warsech, License Bureau chief, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

[EXHIBIT\(fis19a03\)](#)

00:07:04 Roger Hagan, Montana Air and Army National Guard and American Legion

00:08:27 Jim Brown, Citizens for Balanced Use

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:35 Sen Vincent

00:09:55 Rep. White

Closing by Sponsor:

00:10:06 Rep. White

00:10:51 Sen. Welborn entered the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 98

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:11:15 Rep. Janet Ellis (D), HD 81, opened the hearing on HB 98, Revise classifications of striped skunk, civet cat, spotted skunk.

[EXHIBIT\(fis19a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:24 Amy Seaman, Conservation Program manager, Montana Audubon

00:16:32 Ken McDonald, Wildlife Division administrator, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

[EXHIBIT\(fis19a05\)](#)

00:20:20 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:20:48 Paul Fielder, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:28:27 Sen. Cohenour
00:29:08 Mr. McDonald, FWP
00:30:36 Sen. Phillips
00:31:17 Mr. McDonald
00:31:26 Sen. Phillips
00:31:48 Mr. McDonald
00:32:21 Sen. Phillips
00:32:51 Mr. McDonald
00:33:48 Sen. Phillips
00:34:24 Mr. McDonald
00:35:16 Sen. Phillips
00:35:48 Mr. McDonald
00:36:37 Sen. Hinebauch
00:37:09 Mr. Fielder, MTA
00:39:33 Sen. Vincent
00:40:14 Mr. McDonald
00:40:42 Sen. Vincent
00:41:01 Mr. McDonald
00:41:37 Sen. McClafferty
00:42:01 Rep. Ellis
00:42:22 Sen. McClafferty
00:42:31 Rep. Ellis
00:43:20 Chair Fielder
00:43:44 Mr. Fielder
00:44:33 Chair Fielder
00:44:45 Mr. McDonald

Closing by Sponsor:

00:45:03 Rep. Ellis

HEARING ON SB 119

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:46:45 Sen. Jedediah Hinkle (R), SD 32, opened the hearing on SB 119, Revise laws related to discounted FWP licenses for certain nonresidents.

[EXHIBIT\(fis19a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fis19a07\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:54:30 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

Informational Testimony:

00:56:35 Hank Warsech, license bureau chief, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:56:51 Sen. Phillips
00:57:16 Sen. Hinkle
00:57:20 Sen. Phillips
00:57:40 Sen. Hinkle
01:00:21 Sen. Vincent
01:00:48 Mr. Gevock, MWF
01:01:26 Sen. Vincent
01:02:12 Mr. Gevock

Closing by Sponsor:

01:03:02 Sen. Hinkle

Sen. Facey was absent.

Committee Business

01:05:35 Chair Fielder

01:08:12 **Motion:** Sen. Cohenour moved that legislative staff draft a bill to allow blaze pink to be an option for hunter safety.

Discussion:

01:08:25 Mr. Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:08:49 Chair Fielder
01:08:53 Sen. Phillips
01:09:10 Mr. Kolman, LSD
01:09:42 Sen. Hinkle
01:09:52 Chair Fielder

01:10:03 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen Howard and Sen. Facey voted by proxy.

01:10:56 Sen. Phillips

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:11 PM

Pat Christian, Secretary

pc

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fis19aad.pdf](#))